

ITW



03500.015453.0

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
MASAHIKO KUBOTA, et al.)
Application No.: 10/646,700)
Filed: August 25, 2003)
For: SOLID SEMICONDUCTOR)
ELEMENT, INK TANK,)
INK JET RECORDING)
APPARATUS PROVIDED)
WITH INK TANK, LIQUID)
INFORMATION ACQUIRING)
METHOD AND LIQUID)
PHYSICAL PROPERTY CHANGE : May 4, 2005
DISCRIMINATING METHOD)

Examiner: L. Liang
Group Art Unit: 2853

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed. Copies of U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) as revised September, 2004 and pursuant to the waiver published at 1287 OG 163 (October, 2004).

U.S. Patent 5,315,317
U.S. Patent 5,589,859
China 1210490

These documents were cited during prosecution of a Chinese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Chinese Office Action which is dated March 25, 2005, together with a copy of an English language translation thereof, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Other documents cited in the Search Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated August 22, 2003 and September 30, 2003.

The concise explanation of relevance for the Chinese document cited above is provided in the Chinese Office Action and by the English language abstract included with the cited art. In addition, it is believed that WO9728001, which was cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated February 26, 2004, is an English language counterpart to Chinese 1210490. The Examiner is, of course, referred to the Chinese Examiner's comments on the English language documents as well.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Michael K. O'Neill
Registration No. 32,622

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.015453.2		APPLICATION NO. 10/646,700	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT Masahiko Kubota, et al			
FILING DATE August 25, 2003				GROUP 2853			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,315,317	5/24/94	Terasawa, et al	346	1.1	
		5,589,859	12/31/96	Schantz	347	19	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		1210490	3/10/99	China			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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